

HIGH QUALITY CHILD CARE IS ESSENTIAL



590

child care programs from across Nebraska are participating in Step Up to Quality



33,813

children served in participating Step Up to Quality programs since 2014

This past year, more than any other, has shown the world what everyone in the early childhood education field already knew: quality child care is a necessity, not a luxury.

Quality child care is absolutely foundational to the future of our state. Nebraska's child care providers are educating and developing the next generation of our state's leaders, workers and parents.

Step Up to Quality is Nebraska's only state-wide program dedicated to helping child care providers continuously improve the quality of their care.

As a part of the State of Nebraska's Departments of Education, and Health and Human Services, the Step Up to Quality team saw firsthand how the pandemic affected the early childhood education industry. Despite these difficult circumstances, Step Up to Quality has continued to grow in its reach and participation.

Thank you to the hundreds of providers across Nebraska who continually rise to this challenge, and many others, and provide the very best educational experience for the children in their care.

Above and Beyond

Child care providers who are participating in Step Up to Quality routinely go the extra mile for Nebraska's children. They exceed licensing requirements by attending extra training, analyzing their business operations, updating their educational offerings to match industry best practices and continuously improving the quality of the care they provide.

Benefits for Providers

In addition to joining a community of supportive, like-minded professionals in the early childhood education field, Step Up to Quality offers many advantages to participating child care providers.

Providers Enrolled Each Year

Step Up to Quality began in 2014 as Nebraska's Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS). Not all states had a QRIS at the time — now, nearly all do. The commitment Nebraska

providers have to high-quality care continues



QUALITY INCENTIVE BONUSES

\$221,250

awarded program-wide since 2014 **FREE TRAINING**

2,572 people have completed Step Up to Quality's orientation

FREE COACHING

232

programs have received guidance from a professional coach

1,057

Every Provider Counts

Step Up to Quality celebrates every single participating provider, every single educator and every single child who is positively impacted by high-quality, compassionate care.

Enrolled Programs

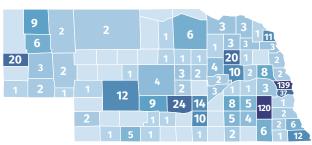
Step Up to Quality serves all types of early childhood education programs throughout Nebraska.



- **468** Family Child Care Homes
- 451 Child Care Centers
- 113 Head Start
 & Public School
 Preschool
 Programs
- 25 Preschools

Find the Providers

Step Up to Quality providers can be found across the state of Nebraska.



Steps Achieved

Every step is significant, and no matter where providers are in the process, they are congratulated for their commitment to high-quality care.

